

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A cover for the blades of a two-bladed vaginal speculum, comprising:

a sheath of a flexible film material having a proximal open end for receiving tips of the speculum blade and an open distal end to allow observation of the vaginal area beyond the distal end, the sheath being tubular in cross-section from its proximal end to its distal end; ~~and~~

two elongated, longitudinally extending pouches formed on the wall of the tubular sheath at diametrically opposed points terminating in closed sections disposed adjacent to the distal end of the sheath and having openings at their proximal ends to receive the tips of the two speculum blades; and

distally pointed tips formed on the sheath forward of the distal ends of each of the pouches adapted to guide the speculum blades, encased in the pouches, into the vagina.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The speculum cover of claim 1 wherein the exterior of the cover is prelubricated with a vaginal lubricant.

4. (Original) The speculum cover of claim 1 including an enlarged diameter section at the proximal end to ease the reception of the speculum blades.

5. (Previously Presented) The speculum cover of claim 1 wherein the flexible film material constitutes latex.

6. (Original) The speculum cover of claim 1 wherein the pouches are formed on the interior of wall of the tubular sheath.

7. (Previously Presented) A sheet cover for two blades of a two-bladed vaginal speculum, comprising:

- a tubular section;
- an opening in the tubular section at the proximal end to receive the speculum blades;
- an opening at the distal end of the tubular section, extending the full diameter of the tube, to allow observation through the speculum; and
- pointed tips disposed at diametrically opposed points on the distal end of the tube forward of the distal ends of the speculum blades adapted to guide the tube encasing the blades into the vagina.

8. (Original) The sheet cover of claim 7 including a lubricated coating on the exterior of the tube.

9. (Previously Presented) The sheet cover of claim 7 wherein the sheet cover constitutes latex.

10. (Previously Presented) The sheet cover of claim 7 further including a pair of pouches extending in a longitudinal direction from said tips and having open proximal ends, said pouches being adapted to retain the tips of the retractor blades within the cover during insertion

of the covered blades to avoid rollback of the sheet cover on the retractor blades, and terminating in distal ends adjacent the proximal ends of the tips.

11. (Original) The sheet cover of claim 10 wherein the pouches are formed on the interior wall of the tubular section.